ALABAMA ONSITE WASTEWATER BOARD

April 28, 2020

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- The one hundred-eleventh quarterly meeting of the ALABAMA ONSITE WASTEWATER BOARD

 (hereinafter referred to as "the Board") was called to order at 9:23 a.m., April 28, 2020, at the Board's

 administrative offices located at 60 Commerce Street, Suite 1050 by Brent Bradshaw, Chair.

 PRESENT

 Board Members present —Michael Dansby, Leigh Willis, David Mastin, Jr, Alan Astin and Chris Gulley

 [arrived at 9:21 a.m.]. Dr. Kevin White was Absent. Officers present were Brent Bradshaw Chair and

 Sharon Kimbrough, Vice-Chair, David Vogelgesang Treasurer. A quorum was established. Other
- 11 guests: Melissa Hines (Executive Director), Joel Barnes (AOWB), Caleb Kilpatrick (AOWB) Tracy
- 12 Welch (AOWB), Charles Hall (ASG) and Marc Geiger (AOWA).
- 13 MINUTES Chris Gulley made the motion to accept the minutes of January 23, 2020 with correction
- of line 109 Alan Astin and Michael Dansby were not appointed to the Education Committee; Leigh
- Willis seconded the motion; by a show of hands, the minutes were approved with noted correction and
- the motion passed unanimously.
- 17 UPDATE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Steven Speaks was on the agenda for today, however
- was not able to attend. Melissa Hines, Executive Director, advised that she spoke with Steven Speaks
- 19 last week, he brought up an issue about a system going in Goodwater at the Armory. John Ballard wants
- 20 to bid on it, but he does not have an Advanced Level II license; he is working with Dale Mask. The
- 21 question is, can Dale Mask bid on the job and sub-contract out John Ballard. Leigh Willis asked if this

discussion could be tabled until the end of the meeting; Brent Bradshaw - Chair agreed and continued

23 the meeting.

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24 TREASURER'S REPORT – was presented by David Vogelgesang, Treasurer. Michael Dansby made

the motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented; David Mastin seconded the motion; by a

show of hands, the Treasurer's Report was approved as presented and the motion passes unanimously.

Discussion following Treasurer's Report - Michael Dansby asked for an estimated number of licensees

who have not renewed at this time; Melissa Hines, Executive Director, advised about 150 licensees. She

also advised that these licensees have been called by both Compliance Officers. David Vogelgesang -

Treasurer asked if these licensees can work without a license; Executive Director Hines advised they

cannot, and we have investigations pending on a few of those. David Mastin asked if the local health

departments have been advised of the licensees that have not renewed their licenses; Executive Director

Hines advised they had not, however she will email them.

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CONSENT AGREEMENTS/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

36 CONSENT AGREEMENT – 2020-0109 A technician committed a dishonest act by falsifying an

inspection forms stating that both sides of a tank had been pumped and that the lids did not need

replacing. The licensee verified that this was true and refunded the homeowner \$325.00 and paid the

39 AOWB a \$100.00 fine. This was in Lincoln Alabama. Alan Astin made the motion to accept the

consent agreement; Michael Dansby seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Michael Dansby – YES;

41 David Mastin – YES; Alan Astin – YES; Chris Gulley – YES; Sharon Kimbrough – YES; Dr. Kevin

42 White – ABSENT; Leigh Willis – ABSTAIN; David Vogelgesang – YES. Motion Carries.

43 The licensee was Shawn Newman.

- 45 <u>CONSENT AGREEMENT 2020-0002</u> No Permit; No License, a plumber installed a septic tank
 - and field lines in Shelby county without a license or permit at an Exxon gas station. He paid a \$500.00
 - fine and was advised to get an Installer's license if he wanted to continue installations in the State of
 - 48 Alabama. Michael Dansby made the motion to accept the consent agreement; David Mastin seconded
 - 49 the motion. Roll Call Vote: Michael Dansby YES; David Mastin YES; Alan Astin YES; Chris
 - 50 Gulley YES; Sharon Kimbrough YES; Dr. Kevin White ABSENT; Leigh Willis ABSTAIN;
 - 51 David Vogelgesang YES. **Motion Carries**. The individual's name is Kyle Shirley.
 - 52 CONSENT AGREEMENT 2020-0018 This installer committed a dishonest act by falsifying
 - documents stating that system was installed at the original location and it was not; the local health
 - department deemed unusable due to numerous infractions. The engineer also had a complaint filed on
 - 55 him as well by the Engineers Board. This was in Vandiver Alabama; first complaint fined \$500.00.
 - 56 Chris Gulley made the motion to accept the consent agreement; David Mastin seconded the motion.
 - 57 Roll Call Vote: Michael Dansby YES; David Mastin YES; Alan Astin YES; Chris Gulley YES:
 - 58. Sharon Kimbrough YES; Dr. Kevin White ABSENT; Leigh Willis ABSTAIN; David
 - 59 Vogelgesang YES. Motion Carries. The licensee was Ronnie Thompson.
 - 60 CONSENT AGREEMENT 2019-0100 No License; No permit in Leeds, Alabama. Individual does
 - on thave a license and did not get a permit from the St. Clair County Health Department. He was fined
 - \$500.00 on each count for a total of \$1,000.00. Michael Dansby made the motion to accept the consent
 - agreement and David Vogelgesang seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Michael Dansby YES;
 - David Mastin YES; Alan Astin YES; Chris Gulley YES; Sharon Kimbrough YES; Dr. Kevin
 - 65 White ABSENT; Leigh Willis ABSTAIN; David Vogelgesang YES. Motion Carries. This
 - 66 individual was Ceaser Vasquez.

67	<u>CONSENT AGREEMENT – 2019-0019</u> – Montgomery County; 2 counts: Local health department
68	was not afforded notification for inspection and the system was constructed in 4A soil during periods of
69	wet weather. Complainant is also suing the licensee. He was fined \$250.00 on each count for a total of
70	\$500.00. Alan Astin made the motion to accept the consent agreement and Michael Dansby seconded
71	the motion. Roll Call Vote: Michael Dansby – YES; David Mastin – YES; Alan Astin – YES; Chris
72	Gulley - YES; Sharon Kimbrough - YES; Dr. Kevin White - ABSENT; Leigh Willis - ABSTAIN;
73	David Vogelgesang - YES. Motion Carries. This licensee is Sowazttoe Dixon.
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75	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
76	Update on previous Consent Agreements:
77	TOMMY SELLERS – Mr. Sellars contacted Executive Director, Melissa Hines and Mr. Bo Cooper to
78	advise he was going to appeal his case because he doesn't feel that he was treated fairly. The 30 days
79	given to appeal has expired so there will be no appeal on his case.
80	DANIEL INGRAM & JOHN BALLARD - Both have not paid fines, and both have neither filed for
81	appeal nor filed motion to dismiss in the 30-day period allowed.
82	Executive Director Hines advised that she was now looking to the Board as to how to proceed. Alan
83	Astin asked what the next step would be, and the Executive Director advised a warrant. Discussion
84	was held among Board Members.
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86	David Vogelgesang made the motion [moving forward] to establish a policy that notified that they have
87	30 days to pay fines; after that 30-day time period expires, they will be notified that if payment is still

not received in the next 30-day period, the license of infraction will be suspended; if payment has still

not been paid after that 30-day period, they will be notified that a warrant and/or legal action if these

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- 90 fines are not paid in 30 days. Michael Dansby seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Michael Dansby
 - 91 YES; David Mastin YES; Alan Astin YES; Chris Gulley YES; Sharon Kimbrough YES; Dr.
 - 92 Kevin White ABSENT; Leigh Willis YES; David Vogelgesang YES. Motion Carries.
 - 93 <u>LETTER RECEIVED</u> The Executive Director received a letter from Representative Nathaniel
 - Ledbetter written on behalf of one of his constituents requesting the Board to consider a "grandfather"
 - clause for those who have been in the business for many years may be afforded a less complex way to
 - 96 maintain their license. Following Board Member discussion, it was recommended that Executive
 - 97 Director Hines contact Representative Ledbetter and advise him that continuing education is required to
 - 98 maintain any AOWB license and is considered critical due to changes that can and will occur.
 - 99 **OFFICIAL TESTING PROCEDURES** a proposed set of AOWB official testing procedures were
 - presented to the Board for review and approval. After discussion and a request to change #7 to read:
 - 101 Students shall not be allowed to use cell phones and all cell phones shall be given to the proctor(s)
 - 102 prior to the examination. Also, a request to add a #13 to read; Alabama Onsite Wastewater Board
 - 103 Official Testing Procedures may be updated as needed or deemed appropriate by the Executive
 - 104 Director. David Mastin made a motion to accept the Testing Procedures with requested changes; Chris
 - Gulley seconded the motion; by a show of hands, the motion carries unanimously.
 - 106 BREAK Chair Brent Bradshaw called for a short break at 10:13 a.m.; Chair Brent Bradshaw called
 - the meeting back to order at 10:20 a.m.
 - 108 TENATIVE RULE CHANGE (to 628-X-3.04 Obtaining A New License.) Melissa Hines,
 - 109 Executive Director feels that there should be eligibility requirements prior to license testing. The
 - 110 Executive Director asked the Board to review the suggested changes for eligibility and hold discussion.
 - An eligibility packet would be created requesting business /work experience in the area of onsite

- sewage, character references, and other areas of eligibility may also be required. The Board held
 - 113 discussion.
 - 114 RECESS FOR COVID-19 LIVE UPDATE FROM GOVERNOR KAY IVEY Chair Brent
 - Bradshaw called the Board in recess at 11:00 a.m.; the Board was called back in session at 11:34
 - 116 a.m. by Chair Brent Bradshaw.
 - 117 Back to the Eligibility Packet Board discussion continued after the recess. Alan Astin made a motion
 - to approve change to rule 628-X-3.04 Obtaining A New License regarding eligibility requirements with
 - changes of adding "the Executive Director has authority to investigate backgrounds of prospective
 - 120 licensees and forward any questionable applications to the Board; remove Advanced Levels I and
 - 121 II from list; change (2) to read, work experience: Basic Installer applicants 12 months; Pumper &
 - 122 Portable Restroom applicants 6 months; and change #(4) to #(3) {there was no #3 originally
 - included); and approve the recommended verbiage stricken from the current rules. David Mastin
 - seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Michael Dansby YES; David Mastin YES; Alan Astin –
 - 125 YES; Chris Gulley YES; Sharon Kimbrough YES; Dr. Kevin White ABSENT; Leigh Willis NO;
 - 126 David Vogelgesang YES. Motion Carries.
 - 127 ENFORCEMENT REPORT The visits are down due to the Covid-19 Pandemic; the report totals are:
 - 128 Compliance Visits 58; Complaints pending Probable Cause 8; Complaints received for the Quarter –
 - 129 10; Holding for hearings 6.
 - 130 BEAU COOPER CONTRACT Beau Cooper's 2-year contract will be up in September; he has about
 - \$3,000 left on contract. Discussions were held regarding renewing his contract. It was mentioned that
 - Mr. Cooper needs to be given more education on the septic industry regarding any future charges and
 - that a quote should be requested from the Attorney General's office for legal services to compare costs.

-135NEW BUSINESS – Sunset Bill 25 for the Alabama Onsite Wastewater Board was approved by the 136 House for a 1-year continuance. (This was due to issues with the General Contractors Board) Executive 137 Director Melissa Hines emailed Senator Clyde Chambliss because the bill has not yet been approved by 138 the Senate and if it is not, the Alabama Onsite Wastewater Board will be sunsetted on September 30th. 139 Senator Clyde Chambliss responded back in the attached email stating he has talked with Senate 140 Leadership and intends to push that one through when they reconvene. Executive Director, Melissa 141 Hines advised the sooner we can settle something with the General Contractor's Board the better we will 142 be; when we go back to the Sunset Committee in July or when the second session is held, we can say 143 that we have done all we could regarding this matter. 144 David Mastin advised that there has not been an AOWA Board meeting, however the AOWA 145 Committee (for the General Contractors Board/Advanced II license matter) made a recommendation last 146 The Committee wants to present to AOWB an offer to the General Contractor's Board – For 147 every licensed General Contractor with at least four (4) years of experience, match their experience year 148 for year, they can attend our training classes, take tests and work up to the Advanced Level II license 149 without the waiting period between tests. This will be offered for a period of one (1) year only – 150 withstanding class availability. AOWB General Contractor Committee, via member Chris Gully, wants to bring forward the motion to 151 152 present the proposal recommended by the AOWA General Contractor Committee to the General 153 Contractor's Board. Sharon Kimbrough seconded the motion. By a show of hands, the motion carries 154 unanimously.

HOUSE BILL 95 A Copy of HB95 was included in the Board Member Packets.

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158	UNFINISHED BUSINESS - Education Committee - The Education Committee has not met. Brent
159	Bradshaw, Chair, advised that he was dismantling the previous Education Committee and is naming a
160	new Education Committee that will consist of: Leigh Willis, Chris Gulley and Sharon Kimbrough;
161	Sharon Kimbrough will serve as the Education Committee Chair.
162	ADEM Committee - Sharon Kimbrough met with Alabama Department of Environmental Management
163	(ADEM). The proposal from ADEM is Reciprocity for education and experience if the ADEM Grade I
164	test is taken. Sharon advised that the questions for the Grade I test could be included in the AOWB test
165	so that would automatically be covered.
166	BOARD MEMBER REPORTS
167	Leigh Willis - The AOWA Newsletter will have an article on the Lowndes County Project soon.
168	Alan Astin – asked if we could have Bond Agent, Todd Johnson, with Palomar Insurance at the next
169	AOWB meeting to explain bonds and how to leverage them properly.
170	ADJOURNMENT - At 12:21 p.m., David Mastin made the motion to adjourn the Board meeting;
171	Alan Astin seconded the motion. By a show of hands, the motion to adjourn was approved
172	unanimously. The next quarterly meeting will be held on July 23, 2020.
173	Remaining Quarterly Board Meeting dates for 2020:
174	July 23, 2020
175	October 27, 2020
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177	Minutes submitted by: Tracy Welch
178	Approved by: Sharon Kimbrough
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180	Recording Secretary Tracy Welch Hacy Ullch
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